

VZCZCXYZ0001
PP RUEHWEB

DE RUEHPE #0800 0601855
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 011855Z MAR 06
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8939
INFO RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA PRIORITY 3042
RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO PRIORITY 0066
RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO PRIORITY 0238
RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ MAR 3051
RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS PRIORITY 9125
RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES PRIORITY 2289
RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO PRIORITY 8884
RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION PRIORITY 1452
RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUCPDO/DEPT OF COMMERCE WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS LIMA 000800

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE
SIPDIS

DEPT FOR WHA/AND, WHA/CEN, EB/TPP/BTA/ANA
DEPT PASS TO USTR - B. HARMAN
USDA FOR FAS/ITP/GRUNDENDFELDER

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [EAGR](#) [ETRD](#) [ECON](#) [PE](#)
SUBJECT: PERU TO MEET MARCH 1 AGRICULTURAL COMMITMENTS

REF: STATE 26852

¶1. (SBU) Summary. In response to reftel, the Ambassador on February 28 spoke with Minister of Agriculture Manrique and Cecilia Blume, the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff, to determine where Peru stood in meeting its March 1 commitment to permit imports of U.S. beef and chicken. After providing requested documentation on chicken to the Ministry of Agriculture and the Prime Minister's Office, Blume confirmed to EconCouns late February 28 that Peru would lift its restrictions on beef and chicken imports on March 1. End Summary.

¶2. (SBU) The Ambassador called Minister of Agriculture Manrique and Cecilia Blume, the Prime Minister's Chief of Staff (Prime Minister Pedro Pablo Kuczynski was in Colombia) on February 28 to determine where Peru stood in meeting its March 1 commitment to permit imports of U.S. beef and chicken. Manrique expressed concern that the GOP's liberalization of U.S. imports could be challenged under the Andean Community, as the GOP must provide 30 days notification of its rules. Manrique further explained that a senior Andean Community official assured him that no Andean Community partner would object. The Ambassador expressed skepticism on this point. The Minister of Agriculture noted that his office was in discussion with the Prime Minister's office on how to proceed.

¶3. (SBU) In the absence of Prime Minister Kuczynski, the Ambassador then called the Chief of Staff, Cecilia Blume. After talking with the Prime Minister, Blume informed the Ambassador that Kuczynski had directed Manrique to comply with Peru's offer on beef by March 1, but had not yet received a response from APHIS to a questionnaire regarding chicken.

¶4. (SBU) We faxed to Blume on February 28 the APHIS response to the chicken questionnaire. Later that evening, Blume confirmed to EconCouns that Peru will lift its restrictions on imports of both U.S. chicken and beef products on March 1. According to Blume, the Prime Minister instructed Manrique to prepare all the necessary decrees so that he could sign them upon his return to Lima on March 1.

